

WARE RIVER NEWS

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Warren election on May 4

Editor's Note: Last week the Ware River News incorrectly reported there were no contested races. There are two contested races: for the Housing Authority and the Sewer Commission.

Two contested seats

By Eileen Kennedy
Staff writer

WARREN – There are two contested seats in this year's Annual Town Election, which will be held on Tuesday, May 4, from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., at the Shepard Office Building on High Street.

The contested seats are for a five-year term on the Housing Authority and a three-year term on the Sewer Commission.

Francis H. Beaudry Jr., of 23 Pine Grove Road, and David A. Johnson, of 82 Quaboag St., are both seeking the single, three-year Sewer Commission term, and Margaret E. Bernard and Maryanne Potrzuski, both of Winthrop Terrace, are seeking to fill the one, five-year term on the Housing Authority.

Non-contested races

Selectman John Nason III has chosen not to run for re-election and Selectman Marc Richard has chosen to step down from his seat, and there are two candidates seeking their positions.

Richard J. Eichacker, of 59 Burbank Ave., is seeking Nason's three-year term, and Derick R. Veliz, of 237 Southbridge Road, is seeking to fill the remainder of Richard's term, which is one year. Both men serve on the Planning Board as does Selectman David Dufresne, who was elected to the board in last year's election.

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Every branch of the military is represented in a uniform display at the Ware Center Meeting House.

From left to right Polli McCrystal, Martha Rohan and Julie Bullock display the Ware Historical Society's banner, quilted by Rohan, in front of the Ware Center Meeting House.



'WARE REMEMBERS' set to take place May 30

By Paula Ouimette
Staff Writer

WARE – It is the time of year when the vast green lawn of the Ware Center Meeting House is covered in bright yellow dandelions, but come May it will be adorned with a field of red, white and blue. Hundreds of American flags, each one bearing significance to the person who sponsors it, will form a carefully plotted 24-foot by 36-foot

area laid out by a group of dedicated volunteers. This year's program will be held on Sunday, May 30, at 6 p.m., in front of the Meeting House, 295 Belchertown Rd.

The annual Ware Remembers celebration began 11 years ago in 2010, formed by Julie Bullock, Polli McCrystal and Martha Rohan, members of the Ware Historical Society. In the early years, Bullock, McCrystal and Rohan would install each American flag by themselves, sometimes working well into the

night. They were soon joined in their efforts by the late Cindi LaBombard, whose house across the road faces the Meeting House. The theme of this year's Ware Remembers is based on a conversation McCrystal had with LaBombard about the role women played in supporting the military.

Please see **WARE REMEMBERS**, page 5

SelectBoard, FinCom discuss FY22 budget

By Paula Ouimette
Staff Writer

HARDWICK – A joint meeting of the Finance Committee and the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 5:36 p.m. on Monday, April 26 via Zoom, to discuss the department requested fiscal 2022 town budget.

Police budget

Hardwick Police Chief James Ayotte was present to discuss the factors causing his budget to increase for fiscal 2022. He said police reform has created new, unfunded mandates including changing part-time officers to full-time officers as of July 1, 2021. "There will have to be a bridge academy for every officer that's part-time now, to maintain their training; it will be a \$200 training per officer," Ayotte said. The department will also be required to send a cruiser to use in Emergency Vehicle Operator Course training for 40 hours. Ayotte said he expects many of their policies and procedures to change with the reform.

Finance Committee Chair Cheryl Wolfe asked Ayotte if that meant they would not have part-time officers anymore. Chief Ayotte said their part-time officers would become full-time trained officers, which could lead them to seek full-time employment in other municipalities.

He said they have three front-line and two support vehicles, and

Please see **BUDGET**, page 3

Beckley a town administrator candidate

By Eileen Kennedy
Staff Writer

SOUTH HADLEY – Ware Town Manager Stuart Beckley remains a candidate for town administrator job in South Hadley.

South Hadley recently narrowed their town administrator candidates down to Beckley and Alan Wolf, chief of staff for the city of Northampton, but Wolf removed his name from consideration.

South Hadley selectmen have reopened the search and Beckley said he remains interested in the position. "It's a great opportunity; a different set of issues, different problems to solve," he said earlier this week.

South Hadley's current Town Administrator Mike Sullivan is retiring on June 30, and the first search saw 20 applicants. Six semi-finalists were interviewed and Beckley and Wolf were chosen as finalists.

Beckley became Town Administrator of Ware in 2012. Before coming to Ware, Beckley also worked as an Easthampton planner from 1989 until 2012, and was a planning consultant for Mullin Associates from 1994 to 2012.

STM did not reach a quorum

Now planned for May 24

By Eileen Kennedy
Staff writer

WARE – Last Saturday's scheduled Special Town Meeting, which would have dealt with approving a proposed water filtration plant and how to pay for it, had to be rescheduled when the town's 100-person quorum wasn't met. Slightly more than 60 people showed up to the Ware Junior Senior High School football field for the meeting.

Town Manager Stuart Beckley said it will likely be held on the same day of the Annual Town Meeting, May 24, in the auditorium of Town Hall. He said Moderator Kathleen Coulombe will likely have to open up the rescheduled STM, recess it and open the ATM and then return to the STM or however she decided to take care of both meetings.



Turley Publications staff photo by Eileen Kennedy

The Special Town Meeting, scheduled for April 24, could not be held as the town's quorum of 100 people was not met. It will likely be rescheduled for May 24, the same day as the Annual Town Meeting.

The STM will stake up whether voters want to spend \$13.3 million on a new water filtration plant that would help with the town's water supply, which is high in manganese and iron. Those minerals color

the water brown and black when they interact with the chlorine in the system. The filtration plant would trap the majority of the par-

Please see **STM**, page 2

Domestic violence abusers hotline up and running

First such hotline in the United States

By Eileen Kennedy
Staff writer

WARE – Always looking for an alternate way to address domestic violence, the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission along with other groups, have planned and started an anonymous, non-recorded help line for domestic abusers.

The PVPC is working with Behavioral Health Network and the nonprofit Growing A New Heart, as well as two rural domestic violence task forces from the Ware River Valley and the Southern Hilltowns to oversee and guide the project.

While most programs target hotlines, counseling and planning for domestic abuse victims, this new hotline, Ten to Ten, is

for domestic violence abusers, and is the first such hotline in the United States, although similar programs exist in Australia and the United Kingdom.

Monica Moran, coordinator for the Ware River Valley Domestic Violence Task Force and PVPC's Domestic Violence Prevention Programs manager, said as domestic abuse has risen during the pandemic, she and others were looking to find another tool that could address the problem.

"There's a national move toward restorative justice," she said referring to the adoption of non-criminal responses to criminal behavior. "It was a way to not just to have the victim always be the one who has to do things, such as move out. We wanted to increase the options to anybody who wanted to stop

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SCHOLARSHIPS

The Centered Place offers student scholarship

WARREN – The Centered Place Yoga Studio of Warren will reward a deserving student of Quaboag Regional High School a scholarship of over \$1,000. The Centered Place aims to help support a student who wants to pursue a higher education so they can have a greater positive impact in the local community and world. The student will be selected based on financial need, the student’s activity in the school and community, and their own stated intentions.

The Centered Place regularly donates to local charities and causes. Toward the end of 2020, a guidance counselor at Quaboag Regional, Eric Urban, asked The Centered Place if it would be willing to offer a scholarship to one of the seniors. “We jumped at the opportunity,” recalls Phil Milgrom, co-director of the studio. “The way the political climate has been, and with all the social unrest as well as the anxiety and tragedy from the pandemic, we wanted to help in any way we could.”

He and Nancy Nowak, the other co-director and founder of The Centered Place, see this as an opportunity to make a difference. “Young people are our future. How this country ends up, and the whole planet by that matter, hinges mostly on the younger generation today” he said. “We will choose a student who is highly motivated and cares deeply about the future.”

To become a candidate for the scholarship, students are required to fill out an application available at the school, provide three letters of recommendation and write an essay that answers the following questions:

What change the student would like to make in the world?

How would the student make that change?

What obstacles might be encountered along the way?

What major obstacle has the student overcome in his or her life and how will this help that student succeed?

The Centered Place is contributing \$250 toward the scholarship while the rest is being raised by clients and friends of the studio. A fundraiser is ongoing. To contribute, you can send a check to The Centered Place, P.O. Box 1210, Warren MA 01083-1210 (write “For QRHS Scholarship” on the memo line).

QRHS serves students from Warren and many other towns in the area including West Brookfield, Ware, Palmer, Southbridge, Monson and New Braintree.

Anyone with questions may contact Milgrom at 413 436-7374.

Free fishing derby is May 1

NORTH BROOKFIELD – The North Brookfield Sportsman’s Club in conjunction with the North Brookfield Police Department, are sponsoring a free kid’s fishing derby on Saturday, May 1, at North Brookfield Town Forest Park, off Rte. 67 (26-28 West Brookfield Road). Registration will begin at 8 a.m. and the derby will be held from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m.

The Town Forest pond will be stocked with trout for children ages 5 to 15 to catch. Children do not need to reside in North Brookfield to attend – all are welcome. Prizes will be awarded.

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Nancy Curtis Scholarship available to area students

WARE – Applications are now available for the Nancy Curtis Scholarship in the Ware, Palmer, and Belchertown Public Schools Guidance Department. Deadline for completion of the application is May 15, and should be forwarded to Mrs. Sandra Piechota, 269 Palmer Rd., Ware, MA 01082.

Are You Old News?

Each week the Ware River News digs into its submitted photo archives and selects a people photo to publish. We need your help to help identify those pictured.

Email your answers by Monday at noon to ekennedy@turley.com.

Last week's photo featured Chris Adams at the plate following his grand slam home run in a recent Gateway game. It ran in the May 25, 1989 issue of the Ware River News.

We also heard from Mariellen Baxter, who recently retired and returned to Ware, about an Are You Old News? photo we ran a few weeks ago of the Rainbow Girls. Despite receiving her answer after the deadline we thought readers might enjoy her missive.

“Bernice Dulak just dropped last week’s picture in my mailbox, after our morning conversation. She was pretty sure I was in it. I am the Rainbow Girl in the center of the picture at the

Oct. 5, 1968 installation of officers for Ware Assembly #71 of the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls.

I know I’ve missed the deadline, but I couldn’t resist the temptation to respond to the question ‘Are You Old News?’ with a strong affirmative ‘Yes, I am!’ Diane Sojka is on my left and Carol Witkus is on her left. Sharon Osbourne is on my right. I had been installed as Worthy Advisor, Diane as Worthy Associate Advisor,

Carol as Charity, and Sharon as Hope. The girl on the far right is probably from either Monson or Palmer and I confess I don’t remember her or have a picture of her in my photo album. She would have been installed as Faith. Thank you for the trip down Memory Lane!

If anyone recognizes the people in this week’s photos please send the identification along with your full name to ekennedy@turley.com.

STM from page 1

ticles in large filters, helping to provide clearer water. Tests have shown that the water is drinkable according to the state’s water standards, officials have said, and the system’s test results are on the Department of Public Work’s webpages on the town’s website. The new plant would be located at the Barnes Street Pumping Station property.

At their last meeting, SelectBoard members voted 5-0 to recommend voters appropriate \$13.3 million for the new water filtration plant, they were divided on other articles regarding how to pay for the plant.

The SelectBoard voted 3-2 on recommending articles about the plant including creating a stabilization fund to pay for the project, accepting state law to allow the stabilization fund and dedicated money, and an article that would dedicate 100% of revenue raised from the town’s local tax on retail marijuana to the filtration plant stabilization fund. SelectBoard Vice Chairman John Morrin and SelectBoard member Caitlin McCarthy voted against recommending those three articles.

Morrin has said in the past the water users should pay for the filtration plant and McCarthy said last night she wasn’t sure 100% of the marijuana taxes should go



Turley Publications staff photo by Eileen Kennedy

Moderator Kathleen Coulombe determined the STM set for last Saturday could not be held because the town’s quorum of 100 people was not met.

toward paying for the new plant.

The town will have to borrow the \$13.3 million, but how those debt payments will be paid remains to be seen. It could be funded entirely by increases in water rates or by higher rates and other methods such as using retail marijuana taxes or other taxpayer money.

Town counsel also recommended that voters approve an additional \$7.3 million to the \$6 million approved by Town Meeting voters several years ago for the project. Doing so would mean the previ-

ous vote of \$6 million would not have to be rescinded.

Baked Potato Takeout Fundraiser to benefit Boy Scout Troop 281 Philmont Crew 2022

Saturday, May 8th
4:30 - 6:30 pm
ALL SAINTS CHURCH HALL
Ware, MA

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Dan 413-297-5886 or
Paul 413-214-1776 or
EMAIL: scoutdad281@charter.net

All proceeds will go towards the crew’s trip to Philmont High Adventure Base in new Mexico

Follow us on Facebook for fundraising information:
Friends of Troop 281

ACCURACY WATCH

The Ware River News will gladly correct factual errors that appear in this paper. Corrections or clarifications will always appear on Page 3. To request a correction, send information to ekennedy@turley.com, or call 967-3505. Corrections may also be requested in writing at: Ware River News, Attn: Editor, 80 Main St., Ware, MA 01082.

Acrylic on Canvas, Playing My Song, Judith Podell



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CYBERSECURITY LESSONS

Puppets help deliver serious message to seniors and their caregivers

By Jonah Snowden
jsnowden@turley.com

REGION – Puppeteer Ken Harris has one goal – to educate senior citizens and their caretakers on scams and cybersecurity through his web series “Cyber Brats” and other platforms.

Harris, of Springfield, said his passion for puppets came naturally at a young age. “When I was around 2-years-old, I had relatives giving me stuffed animals and I had the tendency to tear the back out of the dolls and made my own puppets,” Harris said. “I would insert my hand into the self-made hole I made in the back of the puppet. It was just a natural passion for puppetry.”

As for how he got into cybersecurity, Harris said his late father, Ronald Craig Harris Sr., worked for a digitally-oriented company and predicted the coming impact of technology – the good and the bad.

“My father would always tell us the Internet is going to change the world,” Harris said. “While I learned about hacking, cybersecurity and more, puppetry wasn’t really a thing in Springfield, so I figured I’m not going to make a career out of puppetry.”

Harris decided to go into the criminal justice field and worked as a reserve police officer, correctional officer and courthouse security offi-



Courtesy Photo

Puppeteer Ken Harris has one goal – to educate and raise awareness on scams and cyber security for senior citizens and their caretakers.

cer in Atlanta. When his father died, he returned to Massachusetts. After becoming a member of AARP, he volunteered for the Digital Fraud Fighter Network, which helped him expand his knowledge on cybersecurity.

Eventually, Harris decided to combine his knowledge of cybersecurity with his skills in puppetry and became a member of Puppeteers of America.

“I then found out about Spodulics TV out in Florida, who were looking for content creators who have some interesting ideas pertaining to finances,” Harris said. “I proposed a weekly puppet show and they were amazed by the idea.”

“Cyber Brats,” which began in late 2020, focuses on a fictional radio talk show with host Cyber Sly, and his team, highlighting topics on phishing scams, malware and more. Sponsored links to spread awareness are also included in the show.

“I think it’s very important because last year we lost around \$56 billion to identity theft alone,” Harris said.

“Puppetry is really just not as big as it was during the Jim Henson days,” he said, referring to the creator of the Muppets “So I felt this is a way to keep puppetry relevant within a topic that affects us all in some way.”

Harris continues to attend meetings with AARP and learn more about fraud and cyber scams targeting seniors which he turns into material for his educational content. Harris said his goal with his videos is to help spark people’s interest in cybersecurity.

“I would like for people to come together and share information,” Harris said. “I think if we all come together and share information, it would be great for all of us, and I hope I’m using puppetry to draw us all together.”

To learn more, go to kenharrisnews.com and subscribe to his Primetime Prevention Theatre channel on Youtube.

BUDGET from page 1

they are all paid off. He is seeking another vehicle this year on a three-year lease. They will be replacing an older cruiser, but keeping the old one for the EVOC training, rather than risk damaging a newer cruiser.

Wolfe said it looks like the fiscal 2022 budget will be similar to last year and to “think about what people can do without.” Selectmen Chairman Kelly Kemp said they knew this year was not going to be much better than last year.

Cemetery budget increase

Town Administrator Theresa Cofske said they received a letter in regard to the cemetery caretaker bid. Cemetery Commissioner Paula Roberts said they went out for bid for a caretaker. Duties include maintaining three cemeteries, the common, being available for burials, being available for installation of monuments and markers, and spring and fall cleanups. Roberts said they received one bid this year from longtime caretaker Michael Judycki. His rates have increased by \$16,000, making his bid for fiscal 2022 total \$36,633.

Roberts said the only piece of equipment the Cemetery Commission owns is a 1980s Ford tractor, which is not capable of doing the work necessary. She said they have had to depend on

Highway Superintendent Martin Grysowka, as well as Judycki, to use their heavy-duty equipment for excavation of burial lots.

Roberts said she has talked to many neighboring towns which have their highway department or parks and recreation committees oversee cemetery caretaking responsibilities. She was not sure if this were an option the town would be interested in pursuing.

Roberts said they typically sell three to five cemetery lots a year at \$750 each, five to eight burials at \$350 each and five to 10 markers/monuments at \$250 each. “We don’t bring in much,” she said. Quink suggested reaching out to other towns and seeing if regionalizing would be another possibility. Selectmen member H. Robert Ruggles said he would discuss the possibility of having the highway department cover the caretaking with Grysowka.

Emergency services

Quink said the proposed budget of \$100,000 is not “far off on where we’re going to be.” Ware’s EMS coverage assessment for partial coverage of Hardwick is \$77,000, and Barre’s proposal for partial coverage was around \$22,500, for a combined total of \$99,500. Quink said they are still in the beginning stages of communicating with Barre about an agreement between the towns.

ELECTION from page 1

Last year Dufresne asked for a ruling from the State Ethics Commission about serving on two boards and was told there was no conflict-of-interest in holding seats on both boards.

Jason G. Morgan, of 1138 Reed St., and Sarah D. Tetreault, of 122 Ware Road, are seeking re-election as Warren representatives on the Quaboag Regional School Committee, and Megan E. Sears, of 1336 Brimfield Road, is seeking

to fill a one-year term on the committee. She has been filling the seat since David Kirk stepped down after moving out of town and she will be elected to fill the remainder of his term.

Also on the ballot are Suzanne R. Ramsey, of 1341 Coy Hill Road, for a three-year as Park Commissioner, Kathleen M. Czub, of 475 South St., for a three-year Assessor term, and Jeremy R. Olson, of 50 Reynolds Road, who is seeking a three-year term as tree

Municipal building repairs

Town Clerk Ryan J. Witkos said he checked the furnace when he was in the office Friday, and there was a substantial amount of water around it. After having a heating technician look at it, they determined the leak was in the wall. To prevent further leaking, they had to shut down the furnace. Cofske suggested reaching out to RJ McDonald or B.E.C. for estimates. Kemp asked Cofske if she could contact them tomorrow. Cofske said she would contact B.E.C. as they are familiar with their heating system.

Kemp said she spoke with the building inspector about the handicap access to the door of the municipal office building needing to be repaired, especially when they reopen to the public.

Derogatory comment

During the meeting, a participant in the Zoom meeting referred to Cofske by a derogatory term. Quink, who was the host of the meeting, quickly admonished the participant and asked that rude comments be kept out of the meeting.

Another joint meeting

Kemp proposed another joint meeting on Monday, May 10, at 6:30 p.m. between the SelectBoard, Finance Committee and Highway Department.

warden.

Also seeking election are Charlene T. Farris, of 331 Brimfield Road, for a three-year Board of Health term, Edward F. Londergan, of 90 Bragg Road, for a five-year Planning Board term, William A. Brunk, of 127 Manning Road, for a three-year as Cemetery Commissioner, and Steven C. Cristol, of 128 Dunham Road, for a two-year term as Cemetery Commissioner.

Country Bank hires Justin Roberts

WARE – Country Bank, a full-service financial institution serving central and western Massachusetts, is pleased to announce that Justin Roberts has joined the Marketing and Community Relations Team as the vice president of marketing. Roberts, who resides in Wilbraham and grew up in Sutton, has a unique understanding of Country Bank’s vast marketing area. His experience in strategic marketing spans over 10 years in various industries. As a former small business owner, he also brings more than just his marketing savvy; he brings real-life experience.



Courtesy photo
Justin Roberts

Country Bank team; having admired the brand for several years, I am looking forward to help activate the Bank’s founding partnership of the Worcester Red Sox and promoting Country Bank’s presence throughout the region.”

In Robert’s previous positions, he worked as the development officer at American International College in the Office of Institutional Advancement. He also worked at MassLive Media, where he helped lead the digital marketing strategy team to support local, regional and national clients. His entrepreneurial spirit recently led him to open his own marketing and community relations agency before

joining the Country Bank team.

Roberts earned his bachelor’s degree and master’s in business administration from AIC in marketing, and is the founder of Suit Up Springfield. This nonprofit organization provides professional attire and mentorship to the young men of Greater Springfield. He has served on many nonprofits, including AIC, the Wonderfund of Massachusetts, the Young Professionals Society of Greater Springfield, Rotary Club of Springfield and Square One.

Justin is a member of the New England Financial Marketing Association and received the Game Changer award from the Center for Human Development for making a positive life-changing difference in the community. He enjoys golfing and spending his free time dabbling in gourmet cooking with his family.

Ware, Warren receive grants to support LED streetlight conversions

LYNN – As part of its celebration of Earth Week in Massachusetts, the Baker-Polito Administration recently announced the award of \$5.5 million to 77 cities and towns across the commonwealth through the Rapid LED Streetlight Conversion Program. Included in those grants is \$39,424 for Ware and \$8,431 for Warren.

The program, jointly administered by the Department of Energy Resources and the Metropolitan Area Planning Council, supported the installation of 116,139 LED streetlights that are projected to reduce electricity usage by more than 35.1 million kilowatt hours and lower costs for municipalities by over \$5.4 million per year, while avoiding over 10,000 metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions annually, which is the equivalent to taking over 2,150 cars off the road.

“As Massachusetts celebrates Earth Day, we are pleased to work closely with our municipal partners to support energy efficient streetlight conversions that will reduce electricity use and lower costs,” said Gov. Charlie Baker. “Innovative and cost-effective energy efficiency programs like this streetlight conversion program are a key component of our emissions reduction strategy to achieve our climate and energy

goals of the future.”

The awards were announced by DOER Commissioner Patrick Woodcock and state and local officials at an event in Lynn, which received a \$263,242 grant and recently completed installation of 6,602 LED streetlights. The retrofit is expected to save the city more than \$300,000 annually, while cutting Lynn’s electricity usage and carbon emissions by over two million kWh and 603 metric tons, respectively.

“State and local partnerships are critical to reducing emissions, and we are pleased to work with MAPC to complete this successful streetlight conversion program and deliver significant efficiency benefits to communities throughout Massachusetts,” said Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary Kathleen Theoharides. “Investments from this program will result in increased visibility and safety in communities, as well as reductions in light pollution, while delivering significant cost savings to municipalities.”

Launching in 2017 through the end of 2020, the \$5.5 million Rapid LED Streetlight Conversion Program was administered by MAPC on behalf of DOER, delivering energy efficiency benefits to a diverse cross-section of Massachusetts’ rural, suburban, and urban communities,

from Quincy to West Springfield to Athol. The program provided grant funding for 30 percent of the cost of materials and installation associated with converting conventional high-pressure sodium streetlights to LED technology, which is capable of cutting electricity usage by 50 to 70 percent. The longer-lasting fixtures can also reduce routine maintenance costs by at least 50 percent.

In addition to energy efficiency, the benefits of LED streetlights include their ability to provide more uniform lighting to enhance targeted visibility and safety and to reduce glare and light pollution by reflecting less light into the atmosphere, preserving the dark sky for stargazers and for wildlife that rely on it for navigation and other behaviors. Unlike conventional high pressure sodium streetlights, LED lights can be equipped with wireless controls that can be dimmed to provide the level of illumination needed at any given time and generate even greater GHG emissions, energy and cost savings benefits. Of the 77 grantee communities, 17 opted for LED streetlights with “smart” controls that allow dimming and other advanced functions.

Additional information on the LED streetlights program and related initiatives is available on theDOER and MAPC websites.

ArtWorks exhibition celebrates all creatures

WARE – ArtWorks Gallery, 69 Main St., presents “Reigning Cats & Dogs,” an art exhibition on display from May 22 through June 27. Artists are sought to display their animal-themed works. All media and skill levels are welcome. The cost is \$20 per entry, with no commission taken (cash or card accepted, no checks please). People’s Choice Awards will be given.

Two-dimensional works should be no larger than 16 inches by 20 inches and must be wired to be hung. Three-dimensional works should be no larger than a pug-sized dog. Entries will be accepted by drop-off at the gallery on Friday, May 7, from 4 to 8 p.m., and Saturday, May 8, and Sunday, May 9, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

An in-person artist’s reception will be held Saturday, May

22, from 3 to 7 p.m. Exhibition hours will be May 22 to June 27 on Fridays, from 4 to 8 p.m., and Saturdays and Sundays, from noon to 5 p.m.

For more information or people may visit workshop13.org for a printable entry form or contact ArtWorks Gallery at artworks@workshop13.org or 413-277-6072.

First Congregational Church to return to in-person services May 1

WEST BROOKFIELD – First Congregational Church of West Brookfield, UCC, 36 North Main St., opens for in-person worship on May 2. The church requires sign-ups in advance by calling the church office at 508-867-7078, mask wearing and social distancing while in the sanctuary.

Those attending will check in at the front doors of the church. A limited number of people will be allowed in the sanctuary because of COVID-19 restrictions, so people must call the church to sign up.

Worship services are every Sunday at 10 a.m.; Communion is served on the first Sunday of each

month.

Contact Rev. Dr. Ann M Rogers Brigham, Pastor, at the church office for more information by emailing firstconglwestbrookfield@gmail.com or calling 508-867-7078. Services will still be on ZOOM and Facebook Live. Contact the church for the link.

Raised Garden Beds

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COMMENTS
ON CONGRESS

Summing up
democracy

By Lee H. Hamilton
Guest columnist

It's so easy, in the course of our day-to-day lives, to get caught up in the political preoccupations of the moment. What's the Senate going to do about the filibuster? How should infrastructure money be spent? Is the country going to come out of this year as badly divided as it started? These and many other questions matter a lot, but sometimes, it's helpful to step back and take stock of what we've learned over the course of our history. I've been thinking about this because I've been reading Jon Meacham's 2018 book, "The Soul of America: The Battle for Our Better Angels." In it, Meacham notes that we've been badly divided and knocked back on our heels in the past but have always managed to work our way through those difficulties. He cites a variety of writers and speakers, and a number of them have stuck with me because they're both reassuring and a challenge. They remind us that sustaining our democracy is hard work and that its vitality depends on each of us, not just to participate, but to make the effort to understand and talk to people we don't agree with, and to do our best to discern the facts on which all genuine progress relies. Here they are, with a couple I've added on my own that speak to the same issues:

"Do not expect to accomplish anything without an effort." Teddy Roosevelt said this in an 1883 speech called, "The Duties of American Citizenship."

"The first duty of an American citizen, then, is that he shall work in politics." This is Roosevelt again, in the same speech, making the point, in the language of the time, that being an American citizen means being willing to engage in the work of democracy.

"Speak up, show up and stand up." That's Georgia's Stacey Abrams laying out, in concise form, the basic challenges for anyone trying to affect the course of public life.

"Progress on this journey often comes in small increments." This is Meacham himself, with a reminder that progress comes slow and hard.

"Nowhere is the rule of public opinion so complete as in America, or so direct." This was Englishman James Bryce, writing in The American Commonwealth, which appeared in 1888.

"People are responsible for the government they get." Harry Truman summed up our core responsibility: we have to choose our political leaders wisely.

"It is not only important, but mentally invigorating to discuss political matters with people whose opinions differ radically from one's own." Eleanor Roosevelt wrote this in a book published when she was 76, "You Learn by Living: Eleven Keys for a More Fulfilling Life."

"The enemy of America is not our many Muslim friends. It is not our many Arab friends. Our enemy is a radical network of terrorists and every government that supports them." I include this remark by George W. Bush, in a speech he gave to a joint session of Congress following the 9/11 attacks, because it's a cogent reminder that keeping our eye on the target matters in public policy.

"The people have often made mistakes, but given time and the facts, they will make the corrections." This was Truman again. I like his confidence.

"America of the 21st century is, for all its shortcomings, freer and more accepting than it has ever been." Meacham makes it clear that our nation, despite its many stumbles, has moved toward progress, in no small part because the American people, as Truman suggests above, have set it on that course.

"It is in order that each one of you may have through this free government which we have enjoyed, an open field and a fair chance for your industry, enterprise and intelligence..." The nation is worth fighting for, to secure such an inestimable jewel." Abraham Lincoln said this in 1864. His words remind us that safeguarding a freely chosen, democratically elected government that creates the conditions for each of us to succeed by dint of our efforts is what engaging in politics is all about.

Lee Hamilton is a senior advisor for the Indiana University Center on Representative Government; a Distinguished Scholar at the IU Hamilton Lugar School of Global and International Studies; and a Professor of Practice at the IU O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs. He was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives for 34 years.

How to plant a bare root apple tree

Sometimes I wish I had bought for the land and not for the house. In my dreams, I'd have a field big enough to grow all the pumpkins a girl could want, and a sunny slope to have an amazing orchard of heirloom apple trees. Maybe someday, but for now I squeeze in apple trees here and apple trees there. One outside the chicken coop. Three in the perennial border. And as of this past weekend two more near the clothesline. Read on to see how I did it.



ON THE GARDEN
Roberta McQuaid

Planting a tree is not like planting a bush or a perennial plant. Should you make a mistake about the placement of those you can easily dig them up and move them. I think my parents moved their blueberries twice without injury to the bushes. Trees are a whole different story; you want to do it right the first time.

I was home all day on Friday, scoping out the yard. You think you know where the sunny spots are; fruit trees want at least six hours of full sun, until you document it by the hour. Overhead trees are not leafed out yet, so that has to be taken into consideration, but even so, one area I assumed to be sunny was actually in shade most of the day; another area was just the opposite. Voilà! It is a perfect spot for the fruit trees!

I then began to fret that the soil there would not be good enough, and without any finished compost on hand to amend the hole, my planting would be delayed even further. Lucky for me adding lots of peat or compost

to the planting hole is old advice. These days we want the roots to extend far beyond the original hole. If the soil is too good there the roots will never want to leave. This way, over the long-term, they will go looking for nourishment and anchor themselves into the surrounding soil.

I began the task of digging a three foot wide by two foot deep hole. I shook the sod and placed it in a clump for the compost pile. The topsoil was put on plastic in one spot and the subsoil in another. Large rocks were discarded. Happily, I did have some rock phosphate left on hand from last fall. I sprinkled one cup, and found out later that one pound was the recommendation! in the planting hole and scratched it in. It will aid in root development. I also took my shovel and loosed the "walls" of the hole to make it easier for the roots to penetrate as they spread.

Most grafted trees should be planted with the graft union two to three inches above the soil line. I positioned the bare-root tree in the hole and made a quick measurement with a stick across the hole. The graft union was too deep, so I mounded a little soil under the roots. That adjustment brought the tree to the correct depth. I dumped some water in next to collapse air pockets and then shoveled in the topsoil. Experts recommend that you backfill the hole with topsoil first, it is more friable, and then place the subsoil elsewhere in the hole, tamping down as you go, with your feet.

I made a basin around the tree after I was finished, a slightly sunken area to catch water.



Eventually I will add a layer of compost on top and apply some mulch in the form of shredded bark or hay to create a happy environment for all of the "feeder" roots. If Mother Nature doesn't provide at least an inch of rain per week I will trickle water slowly into the basin twice a week to help establish the tree.

Although a few years will pass before I pick those first fruits, hopefully proper planting will ensure years of fruitfulness.

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For the last 28 years, she has held the position of staff horticulturalist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to ekennedy@turley.com with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.

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MATTERS

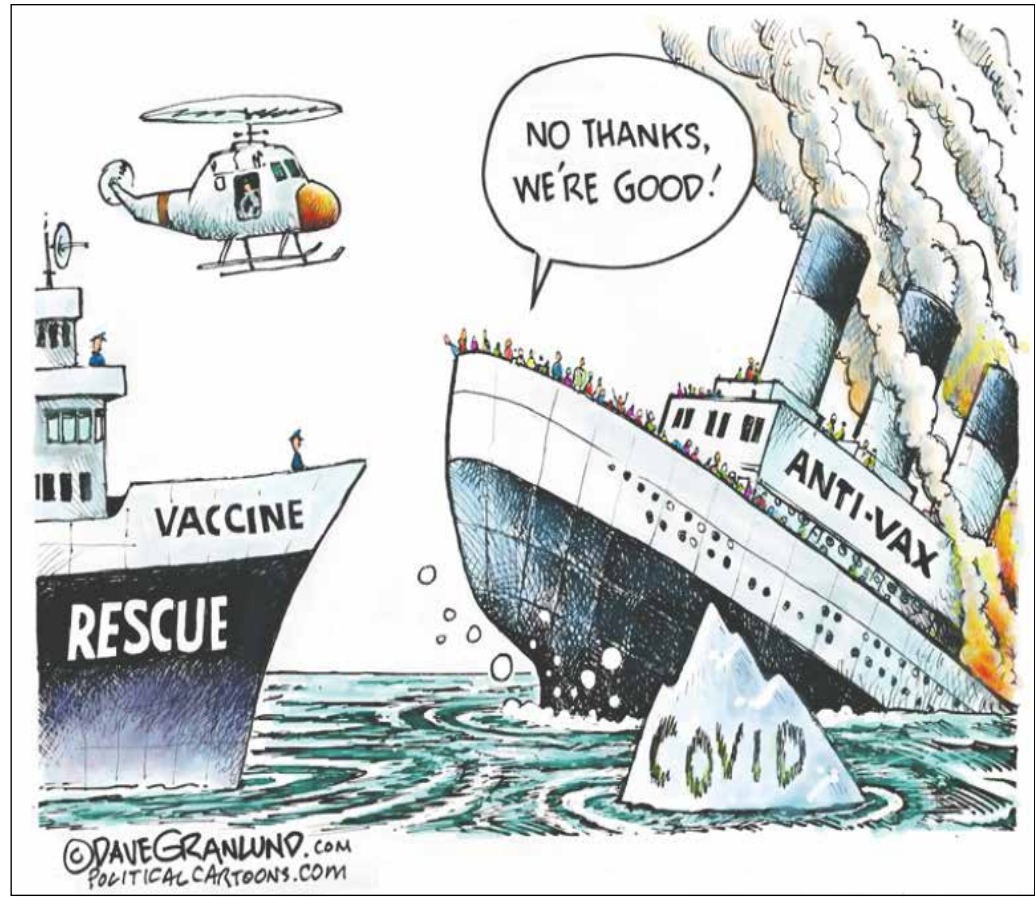
Can I claim my
Social Security
now, then switch
to spouse
benefits?

By Russell Gloor
Guest columnist

Dear Rusty: I am 62 and have been a homemaker for much of my adult life. I have a small Social Security account from working years ago. My husband is older, has been the major wage earner and will have a good amount in Social Security when he claims. I have been told that I should claim my Social Security now. It's a small amount, about \$475 per month if I claim it now, and \$550 after I'm age 66, so it's not a life changing difference. But if I claim mine now, when my husband reaches his full retirement age can I switch to claiming spousal benefits on his account? I understand I would no longer get mine, but I'm pretty sure my benefit from him will be a much larger amount. Signed: Inquiring Homemaker

Dear Inquiring Homemaker: The simple answer to your question is: yes, if you claim your own small benefit now you can later switch to a higher spouse benefit from your husband when he claims his Social Security. But there are always consequences for claiming Social Security benefits early. The maximum spousal benefit you can get from your husband is 50% of the benefit amount he is entitled to at his own full retirement age. But you only get that full 50% if you delay claiming your own Social Security until you reach your own FRA.

That doesn't mean you can't claim your own reduced benefit early, but it means that when you later get your spousal benefit, it will be less than 50% of your husband's FRA benefit amount. And here's why: Your spouse benefit, when you receive it, will consist of your own earned benefit plus a spousal boost to bring you to your spousal entitlement. Your spousal boost will be the difference between your FRA benefit amount (regardless of when you claim) and half of your husband's FRA benefit amount, and it will be reduced if you haven't yet reached your FRA when your hus-



band claims. That reduced spousal boost will be added to your own actual benefit (reduced if you claim at 62), which will yield a spouse benefit less than 50% of your husband's FRA benefit. Said another way, when your husband claims at his FRA, you'll get a reduced spousal boost added to your own already reduced age 62 Social Security retirement benefit. I can't put this into dollar terms for you without knowing your husband's FRA benefit amount.

FYI, if your age 62 benefit amount is \$475 then your personal benefit amount at your FRA should be about \$670. Essentially, the longer you wait to claim your own Social Security, the more your spousal benefit will be because the spousal boost will be added to the benefit you're already receiving. Your spousal benefit reaches maximum (which is 50% of your husband's FRA amount) at your FRA but remember that your husband must be collecting his Social Security for you to claim a spouse benefit.

So, here's the bottom line: you can claim your own Social Security at age 62, but the benefit amount you get will be reduced by 29%. If your husband claims at his FRA, you will get a spousal boost at that time, but the amount of the spousal boost will be reduced because you will not have reached your FRA at that time. The only way you will

get the full 50% of your husband's FRA benefit amount is by waiting until your own FRA to claim Social Security. However, since your spousal benefit will be the highest amount available to you, waiting and claiming yours at the same time your husband claims his, would also be a prudent strategy to lessen the "penalty" for claiming your benefits early.

One final caution: Any time Social Security benefits are claimed early (before FRA) there is an "earnings test" which limits how much can be earned from working before Social Security takes back some benefits. Please keep this in mind if you should decide to go back to work at any time before you reach your full retirement age.

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Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.

How to submit photos and news

Readers, local merchants, institutions, municipalities, non-profit groups, and civic organizations are strongly encouraged to send us their hometown news and photos.

• News items and press releases should be sent in an email to the news editor at ekennedy@turley.com as either an MS Word document attachment saved as text only, or pasted directly into your email message screen. Be sure to include who,

what, when, where and why in the submission, preferably written in the third person unless it is a first person letter to the editor or guest column.

• Please send photo captions identifying all subjects in your image(s) from left to right. We need first and last name, hometown, title, if applicable, and a brief description of what subjects are doing in the photo.

• Email uncorrected, raw, RGB color digital photos at highest resolution direct-

ly off your camera, or sized at least 20 inches wide at 72 resolution, 10 inches wide at 200 resolution. They may be emailed as attachments to ekennedy@turley.com.

• Publicity chairpersons are encouraged to send in news about upcoming fundraising or other calendar events at least three weeks before they take place.

We will respond to all email messages received.

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WARE RIVER NEWS



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2021Turley
Election Policy

This newspaper will print free self-submitted statements of candidacy only four weeks or more out from the election. All candidates running in both contested and uncontested races are asked to submit their statements to the editor to include only biographical and campaign platform details. Total word count for statements is limited to between 300-500 words maximum. Please include a photo. We will not publish any statements of candidacy inside the four weeks from election threshold. To publish any other campaign publicity during the race, please contact our advertising representatives. We also do not allow personal attacks against other candidates or political parties in statements of candidacy, nor do we publish for free any information about key endorsements or political fundraisers.

Letters to the editor of no more than 250 words from supporters endorsing specific candidates or discussing campaign issues are limited to three total per author during the election season. No election letters will appear in the final edition before the election. We reserve the right to edit all statements of candidacy and letters to the editor to meet our guidelines.



Volunteers putting up the field of flags at the Ware Center Meeting House last year. A ceremony was held without an audience and then shown on Ware Community Television, due to COVID-19 safety restrictions.

WARE REMEMBERS

from page 1

McCrystal fondly remembered a year when a police officer showed up to investigate their doings during a late-night flag installment, and how he helped them by lighting the lawn with his cruiser lights.

As installing hundreds of American flags in perfectly formed rows is a tedious task, the volunteers have enlisted the help of Ware Boy Scout Troop 281 for the past nine years. Troop 281 Scoutmaster Dan Flynn said his Scouts are always eager to answer the call to help, especially when they can honor Ware veterans at the same time. During the first year, a couple of Webelo Scouts camped out at the Meeting House to watch over the flags.

This is the first year Ware Remembers will take place without LaBombard since she became involved, as she passed away unexpectedly last July. Bullock said, "Cindi did such an amazing amount of work...we're feeling

her loss."

A window of the Meeting House will be dedicated to LaBombard, as it overlooks her beloved home. A portrait of LaBombard painted by artist Cindy Bourcier, will be hung by the window. "Too many people have loved ones they've lost," McCrystal said. Honoring their memory with a flag during Ware Remembers seems a fitting tribute as our nation pays respect to veterans that have passed on Memorial Day. People can honor any loved one at Ware Remembers, either living or deceased, military or civilian, Ware resident or non-resident.

This year will feature live music by Trio of Women, who have performed faithfully in years past, along with recorded music courtesy of Ware Community Television. There will also be a firing detail and color guard. The program will be held in-person and will also be televised through Ware Community Television Channel 15 and available on waretv.org.

A donation of \$5 is asked to

sponsor an American flag for Ware Remembers and forms are available in the Ware Post Office lobby (on the bulletin board), 165 West St.; Ware River News (table in entryway), 80 Main St.; and All Saints Church (available after Mass), 17 North St. Forms will be included in this week's Ware River News as well as the May 6 edition. People may also contact McCrystal at 413-967-6882.

Completed forms and donation (\$5 per flag, please complete a separate form for each dedication) should be mailed to Ware Remembers-2021, 67 West Main St., Ware, MA 01082. All completed forms with donation must be received by Wednesday, May 20. Checks should be made payable to "Ware Historical Society."

Proceeds from Ware Remembers will benefit both the Ware Historical Society and the Veterans Council. For more information about the Ware Center Meeting House and any upcoming programs, people may visit warecentermeetinghouse.org or like them on Facebook.



A Ware Remembers ceremony held in 2019 shows the flags that will again grace the lawn of the Ware Center Meeting House.

A photo shows a past Ware Remembers celebration.



Military uniforms on display at the Ware Center Meeting House, most of which were donated by Ware military members or their families.



Last year Troop 281 volunteers take a break from putting up flags for each person to be remembered during the Ware remembers.

Turley Publications staff photos by Paula Ouimet

Smola supports \$400M bond bill to rebuild Holyoke Soldiers' Home

BOSTON – State Rep. Todd M. Smola (R-Warren, Ranking Member, Committee on Ways & Means) recently supported legislation to finance the reconstruction and modernization of the Holyoke Soldiers' Home.

House Bill 3701, which reflects an amended version of a bill that was originally filed by Gov. Charlie Baker, was engrossed by the House of Representatives on a vote of 160-0 on April 15. The bill authorizes the state to borrow up to \$400 million for rebuilding the Soldiers' Home, which Governor Baker says is "necessary for the health, safety, and comfort of future generations of veterans and staff" at the facility.

Smola said the bill authorizes the Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance to begin the design and development phase for a new Soldiers' Home that will meet federal standards and guidelines for long term care and adult day health services. He noted that passage of the bill is needed in both legislative branches before the state can apply for up to \$260 million in federal matching funds through the federal Veterans Administration's State Veterans Home Construction Grant Program.

House Bill 3701 also includes language requiring the use of a Project Labor Agreement for the construction of the new Holyoke Soldiers' Home, which was not in the Governor's original bill. In addition to establishing a uniform grievance and arbitration procedure to resolve work-related disputes, the Project Labor Agreement prohibits workers on the project from going on strike.

Opened in 1952, the Holyoke Soldiers' Home is one of two state-run veterans' facilities in Massachusetts. In 2017, the Legislature approved a capital bond bill that included \$199 million in bond authorizations to rebuild the Chelsea Soldiers' Home, which was established in 1882.

House Bill 3701 now moves to the Senate for its consideration. For additional information please contact Smola at Todd.Smola@mahouse.gov or 617-722-2100.

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Court of Honor held; 59 Merit Badges earned by Troop 281

By Paula Ouimette
Staff Writer

WARE – Boy Scout Troop 281 of Ware, sponsored by AMVETs Post 123, hit the trails this past weekend at Horace A. Moses Scout Reservation in Russell. The weekend was a “perfect” Boy Scout campout, giving the Scouts a chance to experience all the weather a New England spring can throw at them – warm days, cold nights, and of course, rain.

The troop arrived early Friday night at camp. After setting up tents, the scouts began working on their topographical map reading and compass orientations. “Over the prior month before a campout, the weekly meetings are spent working on the skills that will be utilized during that camp out” said Senior Patrol Leader Grant Pelletier-Biggs. “Our April campout theme was going to be orienteering, map and compass. Over the past year, we have camped out almost every month, following COVID guidelines. We have even camped in the snow and cold for our ‘Deep Freeze’-theme weekends in January and February,” he said.

Saturday morning, after enjoying a hearty breakfast of pancakes, sausages and many pounds of bacon, the Scouts set out on pacing drills to learn how to measure distance. Several of the older Scouts had set up two orienteering courses, each covering three miles over the woods. “We provided each patrol with coordinates and distance from point to point,” said Nick Bousquet, Troop quartermaster. “They did well. Each Scout really spends a lot of time working on individual scouting skills, like map and compass, knots and lashings and even fire building. We have



Members of Boy Scout Troop 281, of Ware, at the Horace A. Moses Scout Reservation in Russell.

taught them that the skills are perishable knowledge skills and you need to refresh them on a periodic basis,” he said. The afternoon activities finished with program activity time at the tomahawk range, a new program area exclusive to the renowned Western Mass BSA Council Scout camp.

A field Court of Honor was held after dinner Saturday evening. “We presented Scouts with ranks and merit badges they had earned over the past year” said Liam Cloutier, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader. Grant Pelletier-Biggs, Nick Bousquet, Tyler Bonilla and Jonathan Landry were awarded Life Rank; Liam Cloutier the Star Rank; Andrew Landry the Second Class Rank; Andrew Bonilla, Aaron Bateman,

John Hoyt, Tim Hoyt and Chayton Lundin were awarded Tenderfoot Rank and Lucas Schilling, Julian Ladue-Torres and Riley Kszywinski the Scout Rank.

A total of 59 Merit Badges were awarded to 15 Scouts. Additional troop awards presented to participating Scouts included the exclusive Historical Trails award, which included an overnight encampment on the U.S. Constitution and the 2020 Gold level Journey to Excellence award. “This year was the fourth year in a row that the Troop 281 Scouting program has been awarded the Gold level Journey to Excellence award,” said Scoutmaster Dan Flynn. “It is awarded to Scouts BSA program that are committed to quality, youth-led programs that meet or exceed program, planning, membership, and advancement expectations,” he said.

At the close of the Court of Honor, a change of youth leadership was held with Liam Cloutier assuming the role of Senior Patrol Leader, taking over from Grant Pelletier-Biggs. “Grant did a remarkable job during his time as SPL. The SPL is the top Scout that runs the Troop program,” said Flynn. “Liam is ready to provide the next round of youth leadership to these Scouts. He has a very capable group of youth leaders to assist in running the troop.”

The weekend closed on Sunday morning as the Scouts woke up to rain. “There is an old Scout saying, it isn’t camp if it isn’t damp, and nature took care of that with rain on Sunday,” said Assistant Scoutmaster Paul Bousquet. “These Scouts will camp in rain and snow and have a smile on their faces every time,” he said.

Next month, the Troop plans on camp-



Scouts got to try their skills at tomahawk throwing during a weekend campout.



Troop 281 Scoutmaster Dan Flynn and Grant Pelletier-Biggs at the Horace A. Moses Scout Reservation in Russell for a campout.

ing at Camp Wanocksett in Jaffrey, New Hampshire, hiking Mt. Monadnock and holding their annual deep fried Turkeyfest dinner, postponed from last fall. Boys in fifth to 11th grades are invited to visit the program, which meets on Tuesday evenings at the American Legion Post on Maple Street or contact Flynn at 413-297-5886 or email scoutdad281@charter.net.

Leaf and branches debris drop-off days for spring

WARE – The town will be accepting leaves, branches and vegetative debris from Ware yard and property clean-ups at the Robbins Road site.

Residents will not be required to get a permit for this drop-off and disposal, but the debris must be from Ware properties. It must be dropped off by property owners or contractors who have been hired to clean Ware properties. Users should be prepared to provide identification that verifies that they are Ware citizens or working for Ware citizens.

The dates will be Saturday, May 1, Sunday, May 9, and Saturday, May 15, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Leaves and yard waste only will be accepted. Absolutely no trash or other items will be accepted. The minimum size of branches is 12 inches in diameter, no exceptions. Residents are limited to two pick-up sized trailer loads per property address. Positive identification may be required.

All those dropping off debris must stay in their car and they must wear a mask.

Ware Amvets Post 2577 offers Michael H. Deslauriers Scholarship

WARE – The Ware Amvets Post 2577 will award the annual Michael H. Deslauriers Scholarship to a graduating senior residing in Ware regardless of the school district they attend.

Michael Deslauriers was a devoted musician sharing his talents with the town of Ware. He represented the town at the Quabbin Music Festival, Western District Festival and was a member of the Ware Community Band. A music graduate of Westfield State he continued to honor the veterans of the town by playing taps at their burial ceremony and also at all the patriotic and memorial events.

Students who wish to apply for this award of \$1,000, need only to send their school transcript and an essay stating their accomplishments and what their future plans are. Applications are available at school guidance offices and must be submitted by May 1.

Please mail applications to Ware Amvets Post 2577, C/O Richard Rucki, 8 First Ave., Ware, MA 01082.



Night skills were worked on during the campout.

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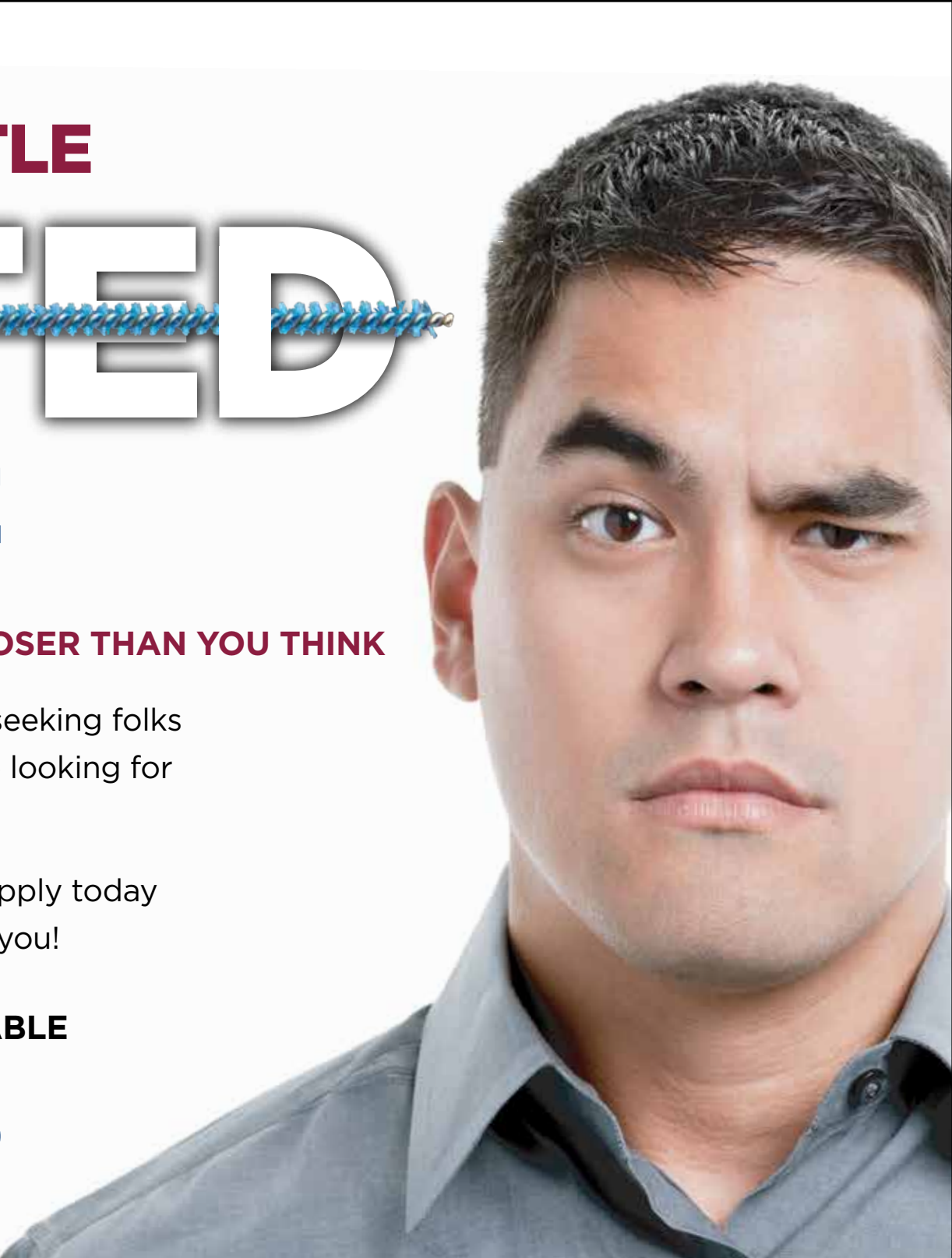
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Indians, Panthers miss out on traditional game



The was no Ware-Palmer matchup this year due to COVID-19-related issues.

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

WARE – Unfortunately for the Palmer and Ware High School football teams, the annual rivalry game between the two teams will not have a 2020 (or early 2021) edition. Ware and Palmer’s football game was scheduled for April 9, and was a game both sides were looking forward to after the original game, which would have taken place around Sept. 27 last year, was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. At the time, football was planned for the “Fall 2” season, a bubble season created by the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association to allow football, cheerleading, and other sports that were deemed too risky by the conditions last fall during the pandemic. The MIAA created Fall 2 with the thought conditions would be improved enough to allow football. It did and a six-week football season commenced. Athletic Director Thomas Shamgochian said the rival game was not part of the original schedule, but some games were moved around and Palmer at Ware was scheduled. The two normally play the game as part of its conference schedule. Both teams are part of the Tri-County Conference.

Please see **INDIANS**, page 8



Ware holds a slight edge in the all-time rivalry between the two teams.

Spring sports to commence after long wait during COVID-19 pandemic

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

REGION – On June 15, 2019, Katelyn Thompson and the Minnechaug Regional High School softball team defeated Pittsfield High School to win the Western

Massachusetts Division 1 championship. Since around that time, spring sports, baseball, softball, lacrosse, tennis, and boys volleyball have not been played. The COVID-19 pandemic stopped high school sports in their

track in early March 2020. Several delays were made to the spring sports season until an unprecedented cancellation took place when in-person school was cancelled for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year. It robbed Class of 2020 players in all spring sports

their final curtain call, and their final opportunity to fight for sectional, individual, and state success in their respective sports. Next week, beginning on May 5, Granby lacrosse will face Monson with the Mustangs hosting the boys and the Rams hosting the

girls. That action will be among the first spring sports to take place in nearly 23 months. In June, spring sports will participate in sectional tournaments for the first time since March 2020 when the winter sports held their tournaments. Tournaments were

not held for the first three seasons of this school year. The Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association sponsored a “Fall 2” season that

Please see **SPRING**, page 8



Kyle Nastasi makes a catch during a 2019 game for Quabbin. Nastasi had three touchdowns in the last two games for the Panthers.



Owen Faulha assists in a defensive play. Faulha had 150 yards rushing in Quabbin's win over Ayer-Shirley.

Panthers finally get first win of the season

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

GARDNER – After a bit of a delay, the Quabbin Regional High School football team was finally able to get back on the field. On Monday afternoon, the Panthers finally were able to pick up their first win of the Fall 2 season, defeating Ayer-Shirley High School in an offensive slugfest 48-35.

The game featured a lot of scoring with Quabbin doing most of it in the first half. Ayer-Shirley may have scored three of the final four touchdowns in the game, but Quabbin already had a strong lead at that point.

It started with an Aiden Notarogiacomo touchdown reception. He took a pass from quarterback Brandon Arseneault, and ran it more than 60 yards to the end zone for a touchdown. The point-after kick failed, however, it was just a 6-0 lead for the Panthers.

Please see **QUABBIN**, page 8

‘Pole’ takes first race in Granite Series

STAFFORD, Conn. — It didn’t take long for Joey “Pole” Polewarczyk Jr. to figure out the half-mile of Stafford Motor Speedway on Saturday, April 24. The defending Granite State Pro Stock Series champion took the lead on lap 15 from Eddie MacDonald and never looked back en route to the triumph in the Casagrande Builders 75. Pole crossed the line over six seconds ahead of hometown favorite Cory Casagrande, with seven-time Seekonk Speedway champion David Darling finishing third. “What an awesome track, thanks to Stafford for having the Granite State Pro Stock Series,” Pole said. “That’s one of the best cars I’ve ever had. It really came in during the race. I loved that there were almost no cautions, and we were able to run our own pace. It feels really good to come down here to Stafford and win.” While Pole pulled away from a 24-car field, only a few cautions slowed the action. Early, it was a caution for a stopped Rick Duzlak in turn one, then an accident collected both Mike O’Sullivan and Craig Bushey on lap 11. From there, the caution flag was never used again. Pole drove by McDonald and left the rest of the field behind him, with DJ Shaw, Casagrande and Darling battling for second over the final 30 laps. Casagrande got by Shaw for second on lap 56, with Darling on

his bumper — then the two battled for the runner-up spot for the final 20 laps. Casagrande would beat Darling by a small margin at the finish. MacDonald finished fourth, while former series champion Derek Griffith rallied from an early pit stop to round out the top-five. Devin O’Connell was sixth, followed by Shaw, Gabe Brown, Derek Gluchacki and Angelo Belsito. Shaw, Griffith and Casagrande won heat races earlier in the day, while Shaw also set fast time in time trials. The Granite State Pro Stock Series returns to the track on Sunday, May 2 at Monadnock Speedway. For more information on the Granite State Pro Stock Series, visit gspss.net and follow the series on social media.

- THE FINISH:
1. Joey Pole
 2. Cory Casagrande
 3. David Darling
 4. Eddie MacDonald
 5. Derek Griffith
 6. Devin O’Connell
 7. DJ Shaw
 8. Gabe Brown
 9. Derek Gluchacki
 10. Angelo Belsito
 11. Mike Mitchell
 12. Bryan Kruzcek
 13. Mike Scorzelli
 14. Kevin Casper
 15. Josh King
 16. Tyler Tomassi
 17. Alexander Pearl
 18. Luke Hinkley
 19. Casey Call
 20. Bobby Pelland III
 21. Adam Gray
 22. Craig Bushey
 23. Mike O’Sullivan
 24. Rick Duzlak

Submitted photo
Joey “Pole” Polewarczyk Jr. took the win in the first race of the year at Stafford Motor Speedway.



ODE TO FRONTLINE WORKERS

Local artist’s new song, video debuts on National Nurses Day

By Michael Harrison
mharrison@turley.com

SPRINGFIELD — There’s nothing like a pandemic to get the creative juices flowing.

In times of crisis that have folks feeling less than whole, artists always find a way to help fill the void. And if ever there was a time when they don’t have to dig deep to find empathy and inspiration, the past year – and counting – has delivered it by the shipping container.

COVID-19 touches everyone’s life in some form, especially those who perform for a living, and their fans who used to count on live shows to decompress and socialize. But no one, Peter J. Newland says, has suffered like those afflicted by the virus, and the frontline health workers who treat and care for them.

Newland, a Monson native who now resides in Springfield and is known for his years as the frontman of the popular band FAT, started a project in March 2020, just as the gravity of the burgeoning pandemic was coming into the national consciousness. That was the genesis of the song – and subsequent video – “Lean On Me/Stand By You.”

Both the song and video, which features an actress from Monson, will debut online May 6, the first day of National Nurses Week. Anyone can stream the video on YouTube or Facebook and Newland and his current band, RadioX, will follow the debut with a live, 45-minute set.

Another component is the social media initiative #thxcrgrv (Thanks Caregiver), which has Facebook and Instagram pages called th-

crgrv. “The thing I love about this is it’s a simple ask,” Newland says. “We’re not asking for money, not asking anyone to take a political side or anything with baggage. They just need support.” Newland was referring to frontline health workers.

“They need thanks, they need gratitude,” he said. “A lot of what they do goes under the radar. The simplicity of the ask is for something that can have a great impact. It’s not a platform for me to get more visibility. Don’t thank me for doing it – thank them!”

Birth of music video
A year ago, Newland, like everyone else, was learning to navigate the new normal of passing time in quarantine and digesting news coverage of the still mysterious virus. His thoughts went to the doctors, nurses, paramedics, and everyone else caring for the sick and dying.

“When the pandemic was declared in March of 2020, foremost in my thoughts was the cohort of healthcare professionals and support staff upon whom the burden of care was going to fall,” he says.

“Because of social media, we have had a remarkable window into what they are going through and how they are feeling. All of this has played out in a media climate that is dominated by a daily cycle of hyper events that have the effect of obscuring their remarkable work and sacrifice.”

The song started taking shape early in the lockdown.

“I began writing ‘Lean On Me/Stand By You’ when I realized the difficult times we were headed toward,” Newland says.



Erin Greene Wallace (left) and Peter J. Newland in a still from the video for his new song, an ode to frontline workers called “Lean On Me/Stand By You.”

It centered on “a young family confronting a health scare,” but shifted after feedback from a friend and fellow songwriter.

“I shared it with Taylor Dunn, a writer friend of mine from Nashville, and he told me that he thought my scope was too narrow. He felt that the song had an anthemic quality and the possibility of a much broader appeal,” Newland says. “I took his advice and re-wrote it. The song told me what it wanted to be: a song for and about everyone with an emphasis on the frontline healthcare workers.”

After he finished re-working the song, Newland recorded it remotely with the help of A-list Nashville session guitarist Jeff King and his team, and Grammy-winning producer/engineer Matt McClure.

“Taylor’s response was, ‘You nailed it – now you have to make

a video.”

Inspired by real-life cell phone videos of frontline healthcare workers and news footage of crowds in New York and Paris standing on balconies cheering and serenading healthcare workers between shifts, the video was produced remotely with the help of West Springfield photographer/videographer Walt Steinmetz along with production team members Andrea Newland and David Newland.

The video stars Erin Greene Wallace of Greene Room Productions in Monson.

“Erin did a great job playing a day in the life of a nurse,” Newland says. “Nurses who saw it think so.”

Although challenging at times, the project, including recording the song itself, wasn’t nearly as difficult as Newland thought it might be.

Two virtual Credit For Life sessions

WARE – Country Bank is offering two virtual Credit for Life Fairs on May 5 and May 11 in place of the previous in-person fairs. This year’s version is incredibly robust, interactive and technologically sophisticated. Last September, eight banks who have long supported financial literacy in Massachusetts schools, including Country Bank, along with FitMoney.org, a well-respected, Massachusetts-based nonprofit dedicated to financial literacy for K-12 students, formed a partnership to develop a rigorous virtual web-based credit for life fair that will be available to all schools across the commonwealth.

The booths have been consolidated into 10 checkpoints where at each checkpoint, students will view expense options, make choices and have the ability to chat online with a volunteer. Students will choose their career from over 100 options, and all income and expenses, taxes and credits will be automatically entered and provide real time account balances. No more pencil and paper worksheets. There are several Money Modules for more information on a variety of financial and budgeting topics. As in the past, all students must have a live “chat” visit with a budget counselor at the conclusion to ensure that their spending is balanced. No live video used.

Links to more information can be found at www.creditforlife.org.

INDIANS from page 7

But due to an unfortunate positive test within the Palmer High School football team, the game had to be cancelled.

Palmer had difficulty getting back on the field due to the town going into the red high-risk zone, as well as the wait for their team to be cleared again for activity.

Ware, meanwhile, went through similar struggles scheduling games after the town went into the red. The Indians, however, managed to fill its schedule, and even found

some great success, defeating a pair of larger schools. Ware took down both Chicopee High School and Northampton High School en route to a 5-1 record. Ware’s only loss came against South Hadley, which won a sectional title in 2019.

Palmer was finally able to get back on the field and play against Ludlow last week in the final week of the regular season. Palmer and Ludlow have been playing on Thanksgiving for many years, making the rivalry just as big, but Ware settled for closing out its regular season by defeating a struggling Smith Vocational team 28-0.

Dillon Slattery ran for two touchdowns, one a 65-yard jaunt, and the other for 55 yards. Andrew Soltys had a 35-yard touchdown run, and Slattery connected with Andrew Bonnayer on a six-yard touchdown pass in the second quarter to account for the scoring.

The two teams will now hopefully look to the fall season to resume their great rivalry, one that includes a lot of pomp and circumstance before and after the game, and a parade in the winning team’s town, hopefully a welcome site this fall after such a difficult year and a half for everyone. It is not known when Palmer’s game with Ware

will take place this fall. Previously, schedulers for the Tri-County League placed Palmer and Ware as the last game of the regular season, raising the stakes for both teams if they were looking for a spot in the tournament. Following a realignment two years ago, the game was moved to Week 4 over objections from both sides.

With realignments taking place with the switch to a statewide tournament and new divisional assignments a part of that, the schedules will likely be reshuffled again.

SPRING from page 7

wrapped up just last week with football action leading the way along with some basketball, indoor track, and girls volleyball among teams that were unable to participate in the first two seasons of the year. Cheerleaders also had the opportunity to participate in the Fall 2 season.

Practices for spring sports began earlier this week and it is a very quick turnaround to get games underway, with several starting on Wednesday, May 5. This only allows for about seven or eight practice sessions before that date.

But because of unpredictable weather coming out of the winter, spring sports are used to a condensed schedule, especially baseball and softball, which often need more ideal weather in order to play games as soggy and muddy fields can make for more dangerous play.

Sports are scheduled to run from May 5 through the middle of June. Like the previous seasons this school year, most of the sports will play about 12 games. Seasons in the fall and winter ran for about 10 to 12 games, but spring sports often lend themselves to more games under a condensed schedule. Most teams are scheduled for 12 games with some playing more depending individual circumstances.

The more important part is that in addition to a 12-game schedule, teams who qualify will get the chance to participate in tournaments, which will result in more games.

Athletes are still being required to wear masks to participate in sports, though it is possible restrictions could ease as the spring season progresses based on the vaccination effort and currently dropping case numbers. Surrounding states like Connecticut and New Hampshire have also started easing restrictions as well.

Most schedules for the spring have been posted to the MIAA website as well as some school websites.

QUABBIN from page 7

Ayer-Shirley answered back with a score, but it was a quick turnaround as Owen Faulha had a one-yard run for a score to make it 20-6.

Next Notarogiacomo, got his second touchdown pass of the quarter with a 16-yard reception to make it 20-6 after just one quarter.

Kyle Nastasi had the only quarter in the second quarter with a with a three-yard touchdown run. Nastasi kicked the extra point as well to make it 27-6, the score when the whistle for halftime blew.

Notarogiacomo would score on a third touchdown pass from Arsenault and Nastasi had a 49-yard touchdown run in the third quarter to make it 41-8. Arsenault scored a touchdown on his own in the fourth quarter.

While Faulha only had the short touchdown run, he amassed 150 yards on the ground to account for plenty of the Quabbin offense.

Quabbin fell against Lunenburg in a tough game 38-6 on April 9, with Nastasi scoring the Panthers only touchdown in the second quarter on an impressive 64-yard run.

Otherwise, the game was owned by Lunenburg, which used to be a Thanksgiving rival with Quabbin. The teams have since changed opponents in the past couple of years, but they continue to play each other in the regular season.

Lunenburg had a 12-0 lead before Quabbin cut the lead in half to 12-6, but Lunenbeg scored 26 unanswered points to put the game out of reach.

The final game of the Pod 6 schedule for Quabbin will see the Panthers meet with Murdock High School at 1 p.m. on the turf at Gardner High School. Following that game, Quabbin will immediately transition into the spring season with practices beginning Monday, April 26.

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I public safety

Warren Police Log

Sunday, April 18
10:13 a.m. Property Damage
Maple Street – Report Filed
10:57 a.m. Recreational Vehicle
Complaint Main Street – Officer
Spoke to Party
11:22 a.m. Breaking and
Entering Past Auto/Motor Vehicle
Southbridge Road – Officer Advised
5:30 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop
Southbridge Road – Citation Issued

Tuesday, April 20
5:30 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop
South Street – Citation Issued
1:15 p.m. Vandalism Bemis Road
– Officer Spoke to Party

Wednesday, April 21
2:49 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop
Ware Road – Citation Issued
6:22 p.m. Harassing/Annoying
Phone Calls Main Street – Officer
Advised

Thursday, April 22
3:52 p.m. Suspicious Activity
Town Farm Road – Investigation
(On-going)

Summons: Matthew T. Wetnicka,
21, West Brookfield
Attempt to Commit Crime to Wit
Larceny; Conspiracy

Friday, April 23
12:49 a.m. Motor Vehicle
Collision/Fire Little Rest Road –
Arrest(s) Made
Arrest: Cooper J. Lamountain,
18, Brimfield
OUI-Liquor or .08%; Leave
Scene of Personal Injury; Alcohol
in Motor Vehicle, Possess Open
Container of; Negligent Operation
of Motor Vehicle
10:59 a.m. Property Damage
Sarty Road – Information Given
3:43 p.m. Sick/Lightheaded
Nelligan Terrace – Transported to
Hospital
7:23 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop
Main Street – Citation Issued
7:48 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop
Main Street – Written Warning

Saturday, April 24
5:26 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop
Main Street – Written Warning

Hardwick Police Log

During the weeks of April 12-26, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 133 building/property checks, 44 directed/area patrols, 18 radar assignments, 22 traffic controls, 17 emergency 911 calls, 46 motor vehicle stops, 12 safety hazards, one scam, one larceny/theft/shoplifting, four complaints, one stolen motor vehicle and two animal calls in the town of Hardwick.

Monday, April 12
5:05 p.m. 911 – Lockout Church
Lane – Services Rendered
7:39 p.m. Phone – Complaint
North Street – Unknown Outcome
8:27 p.m. 911 – Medical
Emergency Church Lane – Services
Rendered
9:26 p.m. Phone – Safety Hazard
Mill Road – Services Rendered

Tuesday, April 13
10:15 a.m. Initiated – Motor
Vehicle Stop Main Street – Citation
Issued
10:35 a.m. Initiated – Motor
Vehicle Stop Barre Road – Written
Warning
10:36 a.m. Initiated – Motor
Vehicle Stop Church Street –
Written Warning
10:48 a.m. Initiated – Motor
Vehicle Stop Barre Road –
Summons Issued
11:24 a.m. Initiated – Motor
Vehicle Stop Main Street – Arrest(s)
Made
12:06 p.m. Initiated – Motor
Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written
Warning
12:17 p.m. Initiated – Motor
Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written
Warning
12:47 p.m. Initiated – Motor
Vehicle Stop Main Street – Citation
Issued
1 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle
Stop Main Street – Written Warning
1:32 p.m. Initiated – Motor
Vehicle Stop Main Street – Citation
Issued
6:53 p.m. Phone – Complaint
Bridge Street – Services Rendered

Wednesday, April 14
7:11 a.m. 911 – Medical
Emergency Upper Church Street –
Transported to Hospital

8:37 a.m. 911 – Misdial Off
Church Lane – Spoken To
11:16 a.m. Initiated – Motor
Vehicle Stop Main Street – Citation
Issued
11:52 a.m. Initiated – Motor
Vehicle Stop Church Street –
Citation Issued
12:14 p.m. 911 – Fire, Brush
Delargy Road – Extinguished

Thursday, April 15
12:37 a.m. 911 – Hang-up Call
Main Street – Spoken To
1:02 p.m. Initiated – Motor
Vehicle Stop Church Street –
Citation Issued

Friday, April 16
12:45 p.m. Phone – Complaint
Bridge Street – Spoken To
7:28 p.m. 911 – Misdial Main
Street – No Action Required

Saturday, April 17
10:41 a.m. Initiated – Motor
Vehicle Stop Railroad Lane –
Written Warning
11 a.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle
Stop Main Street – Written Warning
11:42 a.m. Initiated – Motor
Vehicle Stop Main Street – Arrest(s)
Made

Sunday, April 18
4:33 p.m. 911 – Lockout Church
Lane – Services Rendered

Monday, April 19
9:17 a.m. 911 – Medical
Emergency Church Lane –
Transported to Hospital
10:48 a.m. Phone – Safety
Hazard Prospect Street – Services
Rendered
10:55 a.m. 911 – Hang-up Call
Hardwick Road – Transferred Call
to C7
4:24 p.m. Phone – Stolen Motor
Vehicle Greenwich Road – Officer
Handled
5:04 p.m. Phone – Safety Hazard
Muddy Brook Road – Taken/
Referred to Other Agency
6:21 p.m. 911 – Complaint
Church Lane – Services Rendered

Tuesday, April 20
4:30 a.m. 911 – Suspicious
Activity Hardwick Pond Road –
Negative Contact
12:49 p.m. Phone – Larceny/
Theft/Shoplifting Greenwich Road
– Report Taken
2:14 p.m. 911 – Medical

DOMESTIC from page 1

abusing, and who wants their partner to be safe.”

CARES Act funding will be used as it is intended to address the impact of COVID-19, and studies across the country and the world show an increase in intimate partner violence since the pandemic started, she said. It’s not too surprising that the rates have risen, she said, because the pandemic’s physical restrictions and job losses have put more stress on families.

“The pandemic didn’t cause the abuse, but when life isn’t going well sometimes the abusers take it out on those around them,” Moran said.

Jason Patrissi, a volunteer with the hotline, said he believes it will be effective tool for those who are already abusive or who at risk to be abusive. “They’re already one step up because they have motivation or epiphany to want it to stop,” he said.

Abusers’ belief and value systems allow them to see abuse as an approved mode of behavior, he said, and they often overestimate

how many people believe the same thing.

“They’ve usually been socialized to violence,” Patrissi said. Usually the turning point comes when a partner is leaving or has left, and when it might impact how often they get to see their children.

Abusers, most of whom are men, can call the hotline without fear of being identified and ask for help, Moran said.

Patrissi stressed this is not about offering mental health therapy, although that might be needed at some point, and it’s not about what causes abuse; it’s about changing behavior by changing one’s values.

“I’ve been working with abusive men for over 20 years, and it’s very difficult to reach self-actualization by one’s self, they need a lot of support and there isn’t a lot of it out there,” he said.

The callers, which can also be friends and family members who may be afraid a person is going to abuse their partner, or who already has, may be looking for help as well, Moran said.

The volunteers ask the abusers what their goal is and what they

are willing to do to reach it, Patrissi said. They explore what’s going on with them, and in the short-term abusers can be referred to resources. such as intimate partner abuse groups. These groups are funded by the state Department of Public Health, and go for 40 weeks, with two-hour groups each week. They meet with fellow abusers along with a facilitator on the issue of domestic abuse.

Abusers have to come to the mindset that they don’t have the right to put their hands on anyone, he said, and learn “to do no harm.”

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health is providing supplemental funding so that the Helpline can serve all of Western Massachusetts.

The Helpline will serve Western Massachusetts and will operate from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., 365 days a year. The toll-free number is 877-898-3411. Family, friends and professionals worried that someone may harm their partner can also call the Helpline.

Ware Police Log

Monday, April 19
12:01 a.m. Ambulance Request
Glendale Circle – Referred to Other Agency
7:48 a.m. Ambulance Request
Burlingam Road – Referred to Other Agency
9:47 a.m. Hang-up, 911 Call
Dugan Road – Services Rendered
2:45 p.m. Motor Vehicle
Violation West Street – Written
Warning
4:50 p.m. Fraud North Street –
Investigation Pending
4:57 p.m. Abandoned, 911 Call
Dale Street – Services Rendered
5:43 p.m. Erratic Operator
Complaint Eagle Street – Citation
Issued
10:30 p.m. Motor Vehicle
Violation West Warren Road –
Arrest, Misdemeanor Charge
Arrest: Kyle A. Derrick, 25,
West Brookfield
OUI-Liquor or .08%; Negligent
Operation of Motor Vehicle;
Lights Violation; Right Lane, Fail
Drive In

Tuesday, April 20
12:33 a.m. Ambulance Request
Parker Street – Services Rendered
8:09 a.m. Abandoned, 911
Call Cummings Street – Services
Rendered
9:37 a.m. Motor Vehicle
Violation Church Street – Written
Warning
9:50 a.m. Larceny, Theft
Report Greenwich Plains Road –
Services Rendered
2:09 p.m. Ambulance Request
Aspen Street – Services Rendered
2:48 p.m. Ambulance Request
Berkshire Circle – Services
Rendered
3:17 p.m. Ambulance Request
Pleasant Street – Services
Rendered
7:14 p.m. Ambulance Request
Valley View – Services Rendered

Wednesday, April 21
7:21 a.m. Ambulance Request
Maple Avenue – Services
Rendered
9:16 a.m. Ambulance Request
Hillside Village – Services
Rendered
11:32 a.m. Ambulance Request
Doane Road – Services Rendered
10:39 p.m. Abandoned, 911
Call Coffey Hill Road – Services
Rendered

Thursday, April 22
11:49 a.m. Trespassing
Complaint Coldbrook Drive –
Services Rendered
12:39 p.m. Officer Wanted
Aspen Street – Arrest,
Misdemeanor Charge
Arrest: Donovan Moineau, 21,
Ware
Motor Vehicle, Malicious
Damage to c266 §28(a);
Disorderly Conduct

1:41 p.m. Fraud Barnes Street
– Services Rendered
7:26 p.m. Motor Vehicle
Violation West Street – Criminal
Complaint Issued
7:35 p.m. Ambulance Request
Dugan Road – Referred to Other
Agency
8:11 p.m. Burglary/Breaking
and Entering Aspen Court –
Services Rendered
10:08 p.m. Stolen Vehicle
Report North Street – Area Search
Negative
10:22 p.m. Ambulance Request
Spring Street – Services Rendered

Friday, April 23
4:16 a.m. Motor Vehicle
Violation Park Street – Written
Warning
6:27 a.m. Motor Vehicle
Violation South Street – Written
Warning
10:26 a.m. Harassment
Complaint North Street – Services
Rendered
11:24 a.m. Abandoned, 911
Call West Warren Road – Services
Rendered
11:31 a.m. Ambulance Request
Warebrook Drive – Services
Rendered
12:10 p.m. Vandalism
Cummings Road – No Police
Services Necessary
12:28 p.m. Harassment
Complaint Richfield Avenue –
Services Rendered
6:25 p.m. Motor Vehicle
Violation Church Street –
Criminal Complaint Issued

Saturday, April 24
12:51 a.m. Motor Vehicle
Violation Gould Road – Arrest,
Felony Charge
Arrest: Kathleen A. Sullivan,
50, Ludlow
OUI-Liquor or .08%
3:19 a.m. Motor Vehicle
Violation West Street – Written
Warning
10:16 a.m. Motor Vehicle
Violation Mattson Boulevard –
Criminal Complaint Issued
10:25 a.m. Alarm Burglar
Pleasant Street – Services
Rendered
10:28 a.m. Motor Vehicle
Violation Church Street – Written
Warning
11:02 a.m. Alarm Burglar Main
Street – Services Rendered
12:39 p.m. Fraud North Street
– Services Rendered
3:34 p.m. Motor Vehicle
Violation East Street – Written
Warning
9:16 p.m. Larceny, Theft
Report North Street – Services
Rendered
10:14 p.m. Ambulance Request
South Street – Referred to Other
Agency

Sunday, April 25
3:37 a.m. Suspicious Activity/
Person South Street – Arrest,
Misdemeanor Charge
Arrest: Bryan M. Swol, 32,
Cromwell, CT
OUI-Liquor or .08%; Firearm
Without FID Card, Possess
7:21 a.m. Ambulance Request
West Street – Referred to Other
agency
8:31 a.m. Vandalism
Greenwich Road – Services
Rendered
8:49 a.m. Assist Motorist West
Street – Arrest, Misdemeanor
Charge
Arrest: Mary A. Challet, 33,
Hardwick
Drug, Possess Class A,
Subsequent Offense; Drug,
Possess Class B; Drug, Possess
Class C; Drug, Possess Class E
6:10 p.m. Vandalism Otis
Avenue – Investigated, Report
Filed
6:58 p.m. Ambulance Request
Malboeuf Road – Referred to
Other Agency
8:45 p.m. Vandalism Otis
Avenue – Services Rendered
8:46 p.m. Harassment
Complaint High Street – Advised
Civil Matter
8:55 p.m. Threat Report Otis
Avenue – Referred to Other
Agency

Monday, April 26
8 a.m. Vandalism Church Street
– Services Rendered
8:41 a.m. Vandalism Church
Street – Services Rendered
10 a.m. Motor Vehicle
Violation Church Street – Written
Warning
11:03 a.m. Abandoned, 911
Call Williston Drive – Services
Rendered
12:25 p.m. Ambulance Request
Cummings Road – Services
Rendered
1:29 p.m. Accident, Vehicle
West Street – Motor Vehicle
Accident Over \$1,000
6:17 p.m. Fire, Report
Malboeuf Road – Referred to
Other Agency
10:10 p.m. Ambulance
Request Greenwich Plains Road –
Referred to Other Agency

Tuesday, April 27
12:12 a.m. Accident, Vehicle
Palmer Road – Referred to Other
Agency
9:40 a.m. Motor Vehicle
Violation Church Street – Written
Warning
9:44 a.m. Accident, Vehicle
West Main Street – Motor Vehicle
Accident Over \$1,000
11 a.m. Ambulance Request
Valley View – Services Rendered
11:04 a.m. Ambulance
Request Vigeant Street – Services
Rendered

6:26 p.m. Initiated – Safety
Hazard McEvoy Road – Officer
Handled
7:11 p.m. Initiated – Officer
Initiated Hardwick Road – Report
Taken
7:28 p.m. Phone – Safety
Hazard Oakham Road – Could
Not Locate

Thursday, April 22
10:54 a.m. Radio – Safety
Hazard Oakham Road – Dispatch
Handled
1:58 p.m. Phone – 911 Misdial
Unitas Road – Spoken To
7:32 p.m. 911 – Safety
Hazard Oakham Road – Services
Rendered

Friday, April 23
2:32 a.m. Initiated – Safety
Hazard Ravine Road – Removed
Hazard
9:01 a.m. Phone – Safety
Hazard Oakham Road – Taken/
Referred to Other Agency
8:16 p.m. 911 – Assault Prouty
Road – Transported to Hospital

Saturday, April 24
1:59 a.m. Phone – Motor
Vehicle Accident Letendre Lane –
Services Rendered
12:47 p.m. Phone – Complaint
Rail Trail – Negative Contact

Sunday, April 25
5:16 p.m. Initiated – Motor
Vehicle Stop Hardwick Road –
Citation Issued
5:33 p.m. Initiated – Motor
Vehicle Stop Ravine Road –
Citation Issued

New Braintree Police Log

During the weeks of April 12-26, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 31 building/property checks, 39 directed/area patrols, 16 radar assignments, 11 traffic controls, 10 emergency 911 calls, 11 motor vehicle stop, three motor vehicle accidents, one fraud, four animal calls, 15 safety hazards and two complaints in the town of New Braintree.

Sunday, April 18
12:37 p.m. 911 – Misdial
Oakham Road – Spoken To

Monday, April 19
12:44 a.m. 911 – Misdial
Worcester Road – Spoken To
2:39 p.m. Phone – Complaint/
Motor Vehicle Operations Barre
Road – Vehicle Towed

Tuesday, April 20
12:51 p.m. Initiated –
Investigation Memorial Drive –
Report Taken
2:34 p.m. 911 – Elevator
Call/Alarms Memorial Drive –
Dispatch Handled

Wednesday, April 21
2:09 a.m. 911 – Welfare
Check Worcester Road – Services
Rendered
4:30 p.m. Radio – Safety
Hazard West Road – Officer
Handled
4:44 p.m. Radio – Safety
Hazard Hardwick Road –
Removed Hazard
4:47 p.m. Initiated – Safety
Hazard West Brookfield Road –
Officer Handled
4:59 p.m. Other – Safety
Hazard McEvoy Road – Services
Rendered
5:17 p.m. Phone – Safety
Hazard North Brookfield Road –
Services Rendered
5:25 p.m. Phone – Safety
Hazard Barre Road – Negative
Contact
5:55 p.m. Initiated – Safety
Hazard Barre Road – Officer
Handled

Monday, April 12
11:22 a.m. 911 – Motor
Vehicle Accident Wine Road –
Transported to Hospital

Wednesday, April 14
8:37 a.m. Phone – Safety
Hazard Barr Road – Spoken To
7:30 p.m. Other -Complaint
Memorial Drive – Officer Handled

Thursday, April 15
10:41 a.m. Fraud Padre Road –
Report Taken

Friday, April 16
4:26 a.m. Phone – Medical
Emergency Barre Road –
Transported to Hospital
10:42 a.m. Initiated – Safety
Hazard Worcester Road – Taken/
Referred to Other Agency
12:54 p.m. 911 – Motor Vehicle
Accident Barre Cut Off Road –
Vehicle Towed

Saturday, April 17
6:14 p.m. Initiated – Motor
Vehicle Stop Utley Road –
Arrest(s) Made

Classifieds

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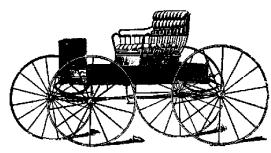
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Town of Warren Wastewater Treatment Plant. **Assistant Chief Operator.** The Town of Warren Board of Sewer Commissioners is accepting Applications for a Wastewater Treatment Plant Assistant Chief Operator. Salary is \$23.3 per hour. Applicants must possess a Massachusetts Grade 5 Operators License and valid MA Driver's license. Job description and applications are available at the **Warren Wastewater Treatment Plant, 2527 Main Street, West Warren, MA 01092**. The position will remain open until filled. Warren is an EOE.

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WARREN HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT 87 Brimfield Rd Warren, MA or Olson@warren-ma.gov is looking for a Full-time FOREMAN, Operator/ Driver/Laborer Must have a Class B CDL license, prefer a Class A CDL, current DOT Physical, Hoisting Engineers license with MINIMUM HE - 2B Must be available for emergency calls days, nights, weekends & holidays. We would prefer you have two (2) years minimum plowing experience with commercial vehicles. Applications available on the town Website Volunteer and Employment Opportunities I Warren, MA (warren-ma.gov) or at the Highway Garage M-Thru 7AM-4PM **(413) 436-7677** Equal Opportunity Employer Board of Selectmen

FULL JOB DESCRIPTION FOR A MECHANIC DRIVER/LABORER Do you enjoy working outdoors? Would you like to be part of a thriving, friendly and dedicated team? The Town of Warren Highway Department is seeking a qualified candidate for the full-time position of Mechanic Driver/Laborer. The Town of Warren is committed to equal opportunity, encourages diversity and inclusion, and believes that a positive culture of inclusion in Town governance contributes to the Town's overall qualities as a great place to live and work. We welcome all to apply.
Salary: Starting at \$19.38
Hours: M-THUR, 6:00 am - 4:00 pm, from April 1 - Nov 30; M-F 6:00 am - 2:00 pm Dec 1 - March 31

Overtime is required for: Answer's emergency calls and responds to emergencies during and after normal business hours. Including during Snow and Ice storms.
Drug & Alcohol screening is a condition of employment
Essential: The Driver/Mechanic/Laborer provides Works primarily in the town maintenance garage. Some work will be outdoors on roads and in town vehicles.
Qualifications: High school equivalency; Highway maintenance operation experience preferred.
Required Licensing/Certification: Possession of a valid 2B Hoisting License and MA Class B CDL.
Benefits: Dental insurance; Disability insurance; Employee assistance program; Health insurance; Life insurance; Paid time off; Retirement plan
Internal/External Applicants: To be considered for this vacancy, please submit the required Town of Warren Application for Employment, and resume no later than 4:00 pm, Thursday May 6, 2021. Applications will be accepted via email, drop off to: **Town of Warren Highway Department 87 Brimfield Rd, Warren, 01093** or mailed to: **Warren Highway Department PO Box 628, Warren, MA 01093**. For information on accessing the Town's employment application and resume (including an email address for sending electronically), please visit the Town of Warren website. Volunteer, and employment. The application is attached to the job posting at: Volunteer and Employment Opportunities I Warren, MA (warren-ma.gov)

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WANTED!! 40+ ACRES OF LAND. Looking to purchase large acreage lot for family farm. Call Matt at **(413) 667-7165**

LAND WANTED

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LAND WANTED

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QUABBIN & SUBURBAN FRIDAY AT NOON
HILLTOWNS MONDAY AT NOON

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FOR RENT

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This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertising in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development " HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

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HILLTOWNS – MONDAY AT NOON

| CATEGORY: | | | |
|-----------|--------------------|----|--------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | Base Price \$26.50 | 22 | Base Price \$27.00 |
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| 25 | Base Price \$28.50 | 26 | Base Price \$29.00 |
| 27 | Base Price \$29.50 | 28 | Base Price \$30.00 |
| 29 | Base Price \$30.50 | 30 | Base Price \$31.00 |
| 31 | Base Price \$31.50 | 32 | Base Price \$32.00 |
| 33 | Base Price \$32.50 | 34 | Base Price \$33.00 |
| 35 | Base Price \$33.50 | 36 | Base Price \$34.00 |
| 37 | Base Price \$34.50 | 38 | Base Price \$35.00 |
| 39 | Base Price \$35.50 | 40 | Base Price \$36.00 |

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Number of Weeks: _____ X per week rate = \$ _____

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public notices

TOWN OF WARE
ADVERTISEMENT
FOR BIDS
MASONRY
RESTORATION

Notice is hereby given that Sealed Bids for construction of the Ware Town Hall Masonry Restoration for the Town of Ware, MA, will be received at the Town of Ware, 126 Main Street, Ware, MA, 01082 until **3:00 P.M. prevailing time, on Wednesday, May 12, 2021** at which time said bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

Copies of the bid documents may be obtained on or after **Wednesday, April 21, 2021**. Bid Documents shall be provided via a direct download link emailed to prospective bidders. Contact Stuart Beckley, Town Manager at the following email address to register to bid and receive the Bid Documents: sbeckley@townofware.com

Bid security in the form of a bid bond payable to the "Town of Ware", is required in a dollar amount of five percent (5%) of the total bid.

The selected contractor shall furnish a payment bond and a performance bond in amount at least equal to one hundred percent (100%) of the contract price.

A portion of the project is funded through a Massachusetts Preservation Projects Fund Grant from the Massachusetts Historical Commission. The Bidder must comply with all applicable Federal, State and local laws, rules and regulations. Bidders shall be required to comply with "Equal Opportunity Clause" and "Nondiscrimination in Employment", as well as Federal Executive Order No. 11246, including any amendments and supplements relating thereto.

Attention of bidders is particularly called to the requirements as to conditions of employment to be observed and prevailing wage rates to be paid under this contract as determined by the Department of Labor and Industries under the provisions of the MA Labor Laws.

Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (including MBE and WBE) policies of the Federal Government, State of MA and the Town of Ware are applicable to this

Contract. The goal for this project is a minimum of ten (10) percent participation by state-certified MBEs/WBEs. The Bidder shall submit completed MBEI/WBE forms with the bid. Failure to comply with the requirements of this paragraph may be deemed to render a proposal nonresponsive.

A Mandatory Prebid Conference will be held on **Friday, April 30, 2021, at 11:00 A.M.**, at the Ware Town Hall, 126 Main Street, Ware, MA. Bidders will have an opportunity to view the site and the work at the Prebid Conference.

Any request for interpretation of plans and specifications may be submitted in writing to Mr. Stuart Beckley by **Wednesday, May 5, 2021 at 3:00 PM**.

The Bidder agrees that this bid shall be good and may not be withdrawn for a period of 90 days, Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays excluded after the opening of bids. The Owner reserves the right to waive any informality or to reject any or all bids.
04/29/2021

NOTICE TO
ABUTTERS
COMMUNITY
OUTREACH
PUBLIC MEETING
TOWN OF WARE, MA.

Notice is hereby given that a Public Community Outreach Meeting for Minuteman Farm, LLC, 24 East Main St., (known as the Mill Yard lot 114) Ware, Ma 01082, being a cannabis cultivation facility, is scheduled for **Friday, May 7, 2021 at 7:00 PM** at the vacant lot located at the address above. All are welcome to attend and ask any questions regarding the project or e-mail any questions or concerns to robertbarryj@gmail.com. 04/22, 04/29/2021

MORTGAGEE'S SALE
OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Fermin Diaz to Country Bank for Savings dated November 3, 2017 and recorded with the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Book 12796, Page 186, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the

same will be sold at Public Auction at **11:00 a.m. on the 20th day of May, 2021**, on the mortgaged premises believed to be known as 29 Prospect Street, Ware, Hampshire County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

"A certain tract or parcel of land, together with the buildings thereon, on the northerly line of Prospect Street in said Ware, bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at a point on the northerly line of said Prospect Street, at the southeasterly corner of premises now or formerly of George H. Pariseau et ux;

Thence North 35° East along last named land, one hundred forty-five (145) feet, more or less, to a point;

Thence South 49° 45' East, eight and 3/10 (8.3) feet, more or less, to a point,

Thence North 30° 45' East, thirteen (13) feet, more or less, to a point at land formerly of George W. Kennedy;

Thence Easterly on last named land, sixty-eight and one-half (68 1/2) feet, more or less, to an iron pin at land formerly of Lizzie A. Wesson;

Thence Southwesterly on last named, one hundred sixty-seven (167) feet, more or less, to the northerly line of Prospect Street aforesaid;

Thence North 48° 38' West on said Prospect Street, fifty-four and 5/10 (54.5) feet, more or less, to the point of beginning.

For title see deed recorded herewith."

The premises will be sold subject to any and all restrictions, easements, improvements, covenants, outstanding tax titles, municipal or other public taxes, assessments, liens or claims in the nature of liens, and existing encumbrances of record superior to the mortgage, if any. Said premises will also be sold subject to all leases and tenancies having priority over said mortgage, to tenancies or occupation by persons on the premises now and at the time of said auction which tenancies or occupation are subject to said mortgage, to rights or claims in personal property installed by tenants or former tenants now located on the premises, also to all laws and ordinances including, but

not limited to, all building and zoning laws and ordinances. It shall be the bidder's sole responsibility to ascertain all items described in this paragraph and no representations are made concerning compliance with applicable zoning, building, sanitary or other state and/or municipal regulations.

TERMS OF SALE: TEN THOUSAND AND 00/100 (\$10,000.00) DOLLARS will be required to be paid in cash, or by certified or bank cashier's check by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance of the purchase price in connection with the sale shall be paid in cash, or by certified or bank cashier's check within thirty (30) days of the date of the sale and the Deed transferred contemporaneously therewith at which time the purchaser shall also pay directly to the auctioneer a buyer's premium equal to five percent (5%) of the purchase price. The purchaser at the sale shall be required to sign a Memorandum of terms of sale containing the above terms at the Auction sale. The purchaser will be responsible for all closing costs, Massachusetts deed excise stamps and all recording fees.

The sale may be postponed or adjourned from time to time, if necessary, by the attorney for the mortgagee at the scheduled time and place of sale. The description for the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.

Other terms, if any, will be announced at the sale.

Country Bank for Savings,
Present Holder of said Mortgage

By: /s/Jonathan C. Sapirstein
Jonathan C. Sapirstein
SAPIRSTEIN &
SAPIRSTEIN, P.C.
1331 Main Street,
2nd Floor
Springfield, MA 01103
(413) 827-7500
Its Attorneys
Date: April 12, 2021
04/15, 04/22, 04/29/2021

LEGAL NOTICE

The Ware Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on **Wednesday, May 12, 2021, at 6:30 PM** pursuant to the Wetlands

Protection Act, M.G.L. 131 c40. The hearing will include consideration of a **Request for Determination of Applicability (RDA)** by Ron Stupski, for construction of 5 Greenhouses, on Property Located on Lot 90, Palmer Road, Ware MA Said hearing will be held in the Selectmen's Meeting Room, Town Hall, 126 Main Street, Ware, MA 01082. To view application and related plans, contact the Conservation office at 413.967.9648.

Pursuant to MGL Chapter 4, Section 13, a copy of this legal notice can be found on the Massachusetts Newspaper Publishers Association's (MNPA) website: <http://masspublicnotices.org>. 04/29/2021

Commonwealth of
Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Hampshire Probate and
Family Court
15 Atwood Drive
Northampton, MA 01060
(413)586-8500
Docket No.
HS21P0228EA
Estate of:
Margaret Eileen Wallace
Date of Death:
12/23/2002
CITATION ON
PETITION FOR
FORMAL
ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:

A Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by **Karen L. Wallace** of XX XX requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Karen L. Wallace** of XX XX be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 05/27/2021**.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline

by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED
ADMINISTRATION
UNDER THE
MASSACHUSETTS
UNIFORM PROBATE
CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. **Linda S Fidnick**, First Justice of this Court.
Date: April 26, 2021

Michael J. Carey
Register of Probate
04/29/2021

HOW TO SUBMIT
PUBLIC NOTICES

All public notices to be published in the *Ware River News* should be sent directly to ntices@turley.com. Please indicate the newspapers and publication date(s) for the notice(s) in the subject line of your email. For questions regarding coverage area, procedures or cost, please call 413-283-8393.

Turley Publications, Inc. publishes 14 weekly newspapers throughout Western Massachusetts. Visit www.turley.com for more information.

Amherst College music
dept. performance

AMHERST - The Amherst College Department of Music presents "Choral Society: Senior Concert." Pre-recorded from Buckley with our on-campus choirs, the Choral Society performs on Saturday, May 1, at 7 p.m. on the Music Department Events Live Stream page:

<https://www.amherst.edu/academiclife/departments/music/events/event-live-stream>.

Singing during the pandemic has been a challenge around the globe, but we at Amherst have been lucky to make music safely and in-person. The on-campus Amherst choirs will share a variety of choral works including world premieres of Grey Grant's "Voice Chant II" and Brandon Waddles' "Come, Lord Jesus." On-campus and remote choir members are featured on the world premiere of Colin Britt's "Unmute Yourself." The concert closes with the traditional Senior Song.

For a complete listing of upcoming Amherst College Department of Music events, visit us on the web: www.amherst.edu/academiclife/departments/music/events.

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Thurs. 10am - 4pm • Fri. 10am-4pm

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For more information call 283-3330 ext. 100

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Information

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will print
your summer
calendar listings
FREE OF CHARGE
in our
SUMMERFEST
Supplement which
publishes early June.

Deadline for submissions
is May 4th.

Community
Summer Events

Event Should Be Non-Profit
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200,000 Readers in the Pioneer Valley

Event Name _____

Date/Time _____

Location _____

Description _____

Cost _____

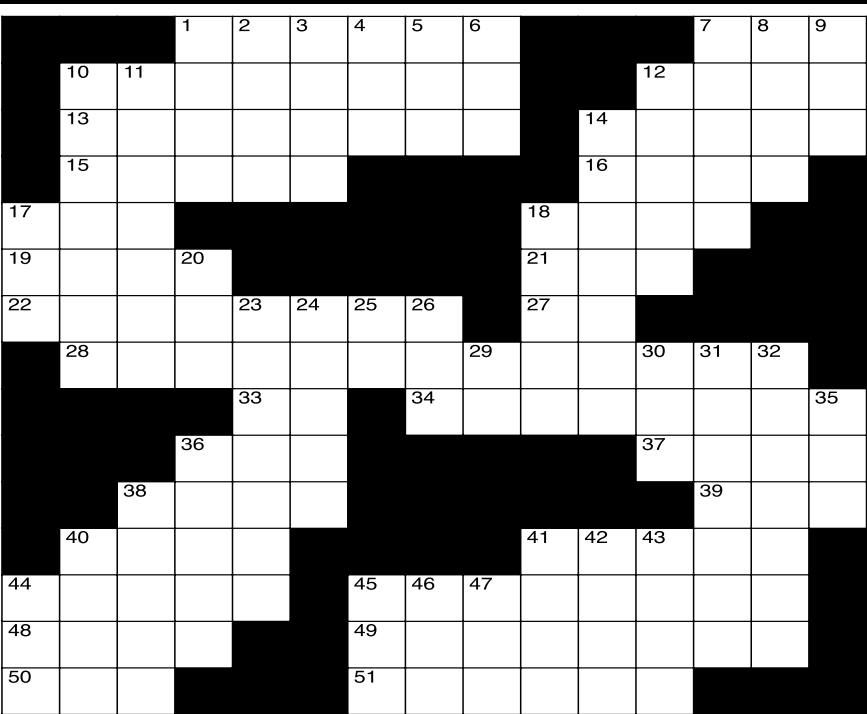
Contact name & phone number for more information _____

Please specify if you would like your name and number printed in the paper.

CLIP OUT AND MAIL TO:

Turley Publications, Attn: Jamie Joslyn, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069
or email* them to: jamie@turley.com

*Be sure to indicate "Summer" in the subject line of your email.



CLUES ACROSS

- Switches
- Legal financial term (abbr.)
- Sweeties
- Competition
- Measures electrical resistance
- Psychotherapy researcher
- Causes injury to
- Open
- Polish peninsula
- Hebrew calendar month
- Whale ship captain
- Children's accessory
- Unknown point
- Exists
- Extremely confident
- Expression of

disgust

- The government has many
- Small constellation
- Northern Indian city
- The best pitchers
- Naturally occurring solid
- Apple computers
- Portuguese city
- Ancient Greek war dance
- More reliable
- Sailboat
- Newspapers
- Frequently flooded area
- They dig for coal

- The ___ of March
- Healthy
- Where golfers begin
- Soviet Socialist Republic (abbr.)
- Of the cheek
- Injury reminder
- Statesman Franklin
- For an unknown reason
- Brain parts
- Islamic calendar month
- Avenue where ad men work
- Possesses
- Accept
- Stake
- Former British PM
- May
- US battleships circa 1939
- Greek alphabet letter

CLUES DOWN

- Partial
- "Mad Men" leading man

- When you hope to get there
- Top lawyer
- Fiddler crabs
- Intolerant
- Persons that cause extreme fear
- Car mechanics group
- Capital of Ghana
- Famed ballplayer Hank
- Emphasizes insignificance
- Light-colored
- Distinctive smell
- Muckraking journalist Jacob
- Sunscreen rating
- Short-term memory
- Japanese delicacy
- One point north of due east

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